

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed June 20, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance. In the Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-19 in the subject application for anticipation under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,063,263 (the "Palmas patent") incorporating U.S. Patent 5,565,020 (the "Niewiedzial patent"). In reply, Applicants have amended claims 1, 8 and 15. Accordingly, claims 1-19 remain pending in the subject application.

Applicants would like to express their gratitude to the Examiner for taking the time to discuss the subject application with Applicants' undersigned representative over the telephone on July 12, 2006. Applicants will endeavor to present herein what was discussed in the interview.

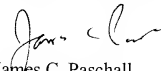
Applicants have amended claims 1 and 8 to recite "a disengaging region above and below said work point" and that the inlet to the transport conduit is in the disengaging region. Support for this amendment is provided in paragraph [0024], specifically on lines 19-20 of page 10 and FIG. 1 which shows that the inlet 44 to the transport conduit 22 is disposed in the disengaging region 12. Claim 15 has been amended to recite that catalyst and hydrocarbon product vapor are discharged horizontally into a disengaging region and that an inlet of a transport conduit which withdraws the product vapor and entrained catalyst is disposed in the disengaging region. Support for this amendment is found also at paragraph [0024], specifically on page 10, lines 11-13. Moreover, FIG. 1 shows that the inlet 44 to the transport conduit 22 is located in the disengaging region 12. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is added by this amendment. Applicants request the Examiner to enter the amendments proposed because they put the claims in the application in a condition for allowance.

The Niewiedzial patent does not disclose a transport conduit having an inlet in a disengaging region above and below the point where catalyst and product gases are discharged into a vessel or in the horizontal trajectory therefrom. Moreover, the conduit 15' in the Palmas patent does not have an outlet directly communicating with an inlet of a

cyclone. Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 8 and 15 are distinct over the cited references. Moreover, at least for the same reasons, dependent claims 2-7, 9-14 and 16-19 are believed to be patentable over the cited references.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims 1-19 pending in the subject application. Should the Examiner have any further concerns, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



James C. Paschall
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 36,887
(847) 391-2355 (phone)
(847) 391-2387 (fax)

Date: July 17, 2006

JCP/gm